



## INVESTIGATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

All or some of the information you provide may become available to the public.

OMB # (1024-0236)  
Exp. Date (11/30/2010)  
Form No. (10-226)

<b>Reporting Year:</b> 2007	<b>Park:</b> Shenandoah NP	<b>Select the type of permit this report addresses:</b> Scientific Study	
<b>Name of principal investigator or responsible official:</b> William McShea		<b>Office Phone:</b> 540 635 6563	
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<b>Additional investigators or key field assistants (first name, last name, office phone, office email)</b>			
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<b>Project Title (maximum 300 characters):</b> Pilot Project for Carnivore Survey Along Appalachian Trail			
<b>Park-assigned Study or Activity #:</b> SHEN-00332	<b>Park-assigned Permit #:</b> SHEN-2007-SCI-0001	<b>Permit Start Date:</b> Mar 09, 2007	<b>Permit Expiration Date:</b> May 30, 2008
<b>Scientific Study Starting Date:</b> Mar 09, 2007		<b>Estimated Scientific Study Ending Date:</b> May 30, 2008	
<b>For either a Scientific Study or a Science Education Activity, the status is:</b>  Continuing		<b>For a Scientific Study that is completed, please check each of the following that applies:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> A final report has been provided to the park or will be provided to the park within the next two years  <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of field notes, data files, photos, or other study records, as agreed, have been provided to the park  <input type="checkbox"/> All collected and retained specimens have been cataloged into the NPS catalog system and NPS has processed loan agreements as needed	
<b>Activity Type:</b> Inventory			
<b>Subject/Discipline:</b> Mammals			

### Purpose of Scientific Study or Science Education Activity during the reporting year (maximum 4000 characters):

The purpose of this study is to develop a protocol for monitoring predator species along the Appalachian Trail. The pilot study will occur April-November 2007 along the AT in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. The survey will use infra-red trip-cameras to photograph wildlife species at specific points along the trail. It will rely on volunteers to adopt sections of the trail and agree to move cameras from point to point on a monthly basis. The cameras are digital so the pictures will be shared between the volunteers, the organizations, and the scientists.

The goals of the project, are fourfold:

1. To understand the changes in air and water quality and the health of the plants and animals on lands associated with the trail.
2. To more effectively protect that land's natural resources.
3. To foster public appreciation for nature generally and conservation of the Appalachian Trail specifically.
4. To better tell the story of the status of the health of the Appalachian Trail's lands to visitors, trail neighbors in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland, and the general public.

**Findings and status of Scientific Study or accomplishments of Science Education Activity during the reporting year (maximum 4000 characters):**

During 2007 we sampled 266 locations along the Appalachian Trail in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. The trip camera was left at each point near the trail for one month between April and November. Of the 63 points in Shenandoah National Park, we photographed 14 species, which included these species and the number of points they were "captured" at: Ursus americanus (37), Lynx rufus (7), Canis latrans (4), Urocyon cinereoargenteus (3), Canis familiaris (6), Procyon lotor (8), Didelphis virginiana (3), Sciurus carolinensis (12), Tamias striatus (1), Peromyscus sp. (1), Sylvilagus floridanus (3), Bonasa umbellus (1), Mustela sp. (1), Odocoileus virginianus (58).

**For Scientific Studies (not Science Education Activities), were any specimens collected and removed from the park but not destroyed during analysis?**

No

**Funding specifically used in this park this reporting year that was provided by NPS (enter dollar amount):**

\$0

**Funding specifically used in this park this reporting year that was provided by all other sources (enter dollar amount):**

\$0

**List any other U.S. Government Agencies supporting this study or activity and the funding each provided this reporting year:**

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.625 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the forms. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to Dr. John G. Dennis, Natural Resources (3127 MIB), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.